

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please find below a listing of all of the pending claims. The statuses of the claims are set forth in parentheses.

1. (Currently amended) A method for improving performance of liquid-type fuel cells comprising:

providing a liquid-type fuel cell having a fuel and a platinum-based catalyst, ~~and~~
incorporating into the fuel a fuel additive to reduce CO poisoning to the platinum-based catalyst, and
pre-packing the fuel additive for field use.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the fuel additive comprises hemoglobin.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the amount of hemoglobin is in the range of 0.0001-1% by weight.

4. (Previously presented) A method for improving performance of liquid-type fuel cells comprising:

providing a liquid-type fuel cell having an electrode and a fuel, said fuel cell also having a liquid-catalyst interface, and
incorporating into the fuel a fuel additive to increase wettability of the electrode and to decrease interfacial tension of the liquid-catalyst interface.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the fuel additive comprises surfactant.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the amount of surfactant is in the range of 0.0001-1% by weight.
7. (Original) A method for improving performance of liquid-type fuel cells comprising:
 - providing a liquid-type fuel cell having a fuel, and
 - incorporating into the fuel a fuel additive to reduce dissolved oxygen in the fuel.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the fuel additive comprises an oxygen scavenger.
9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the amount of oxygen scavenger is in the range of 0.0001-1% by weight.
10. (Original) A method for improving performance of liquid-type fuel cells comprising:
 - providing a liquid-type fuel cell having a fuel, a catalyst, and electrolyte, and
 - incorporating into the fuel a fuel additive to remove metal ions that are detrimental to the catalyst or electrolyte.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the fuel additive comprises a chelating agent.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the amount of chelating agent is in the range of 0.0001-1% by weight.

13-15. (Canceled).

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the fuel additive is pre-packed for field use.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the surfactant comprises at least one of an anionic, a cationic, an amphoteric, and a nonionic surfactant.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the fuel additive is pre-packed for field use.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the oxygen scavenger comprises at least one of sodium sulfite, sodium bisulfite, ascorbate, hydrazine, hydroquinone, benzmay, and sulphydryl.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the fuel additive is pre-packed for field use.

PATENT

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21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the chelating agent comprises at least one of ethylenediaminetetracetic acid and trans-1,2-diaminocyclohexane-N,N,N',N'-tetraacetic acid.

22. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein the hemoglobin is in powder form.